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C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 000445

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/08/2019  
TAGS: [AORC](#) [KNNP](#) [IAEA](#) [PREL](#) [AS](#)  
SUBJECT: AUSTRALIA ON IAEA DIRECTOR GENERAL ELECTION  
  
REF: STATE 46302 (NOTAL)

Classified By: Acting POLCOUNS John W. Crowley. Reasons: 1.4 (b)(d)

11. (C) Australia remains solidly behind Japanese Ambassador Yukiya Amano for IAEA director general, according to Acting Assistant Secretary for Arms Control and Counter-Proliferation Wendy Walsh. During a May 8 call by poloff to thank Australia for its support and outline U.S. strategy going into the next round of voting, Walsh said Foreign Minister Smith had personally pledged Australia's support for Amano when he met Japanese Foreign Minister Nakasone in Tokyo on the margins of the April 17 Pakistan Donor's Conference.

12. (C) Walsh observed that the emergence of a new Belgian candidate may peel off some of the European countries who otherwise would have been inclined to vote for Amano. Likewise, the new Spanish candidate might attract votes of the South Americans, further diluting Amano's support.

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